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(54) Title: **IMMUNE DIAGNOSTIC ASSAY TO DIAGNOSE AND MONITOR TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION**

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of diagnosing and monitoring various distinct presentations of tuberculosis: active tuberculosis disease, latent tuberculosis infection and recent tuberculosis infection. The rapid immune assay is based on the evaluation of the frequency of Interferon (IFN) gamma-producing antigen-specific T lymphocytes responding to selected peptide sequences from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, selected for their immunogenicity. The invention concerns also immunogenic and vaccine compositions based on these specific peptide sequences.

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